



Otsego Master Gardener General Meeting
Education Center, Cooperstown / Zoom Conferencing

JANUARY 11, 2023 AGENDA

Facilitator: David Cox
Notetaker: Mary Ellen Calta

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Attendance
- Approval of December Minutes

Committee Reports

- Education & Outreach
 - We Grow: VT/Tallamy (Mary Ellen Calta)
 - E&O Meeting – Program Planning; progress to date (Francine/David)
 - GROW (Francine)
 - Seed Swap Update: OMGs participating – (Ellen/David)
 - Winter Sowing workshop: Oneonta Job Corps (Chris B/Francine)
 - Gardening: Choose Your Adventure (Francine)
 - Clark event / Connections: (Mary Ellen Calta)
 - Facebook (Francine)
- Finance-Budgets / Grounds / Grow with CCE:
 - Finance/Budgets: Vote to Approve (Mary-Ellen, et al.)
 - Plant Sale / Seed Starting / AAS / Plug Committee / AAS Plugs (Pati/Carol/Kim)
 - Grow w/CCE / Phase 1 (Peter/Pati)
 - Grounds (Peter)
 - VVGT 2022 (Mary Ellen Calta/Peter/David)

NEW BUSINESS

- Committee Selections for 2023
- MGVT Training 2022/2023: OMGs needed to serve as mentors/buddies for MGVT Trainees; engage before the close of the training on March 13. Orientation date/program TBD.
- Other

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 – 10:00 a.m., Education Center/Zoom



**Otsego Master Gardener Meeting Minutes
Education Center, Cooperstown / Zoom Conferencing
December 14, 2022, 10 a.m.**

Facilitator: David Cox
Notetaker: Susanna Membrino

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom and in person.

Attendees: David Cox, Madelyn Sanchez Taylor, Susanna Membrino, Pati Grady, Francine Stayter, Peter Coleman, Carol Phelps, Darleen Fournier, Mary Ellen Crawford, Susan Jones, Ellen Alex, Kathy Koch.

Old Business:

November 9, 2022, Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Committee Reports:

Education & Outreach - Francine Stayter (report attached)

Dr. Doug Tallamy, the author of Bringing Nature Home and longtime environmental activist, gave a talk sponsored by the Vermont Master Gardeners. Followers of Tallamy have formed the Homegrown National Park movement dedicated to transforming backyards into a haven for pollinators using primarily native plants.

Five percent of U.S. land remains in its natural state. He advocates reasonable restoration, not radical. Exotics have no enemies—they come into the country for that reason and become invasive. 75% of our insects rely on 5% of our native plants so we must focus on “keystone species.” Caterpillars are the answer—they feed 4/5 of bird families on earth. Examples of keystone plants in our area are cherry, oak, willow, aster, goldenrod, and helianthus.

Prescription for improvement:

- Shrink lawns.
- Plant 70% native plants.
- Reduce night-time lights.
- Leave fallen leaves to complete the development cycles of insects.

Go to www.nwf.org/Native Plant Finder/Plants and enter your zip code for a list of native plants. And you can find additional resources on the Facebook page.

Francine stated that of the \$1,750 allocated to the E&O committee, \$716 has been spent. She suggested we consider hiring Doug Tallamy for our Master Gardener gathering to be offered to MGs and the community. His speaking fee is \$500 and the idea is to open it to the public and possibly get OCCA to co-sponsor.

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Cornell Cooperative Extension in Otsego County provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Spring Garden Day 2023 will be held on April 15, 2023. David has contacted OCCA staff person, Jeff O'Handley. In addition, Dr. Steve Reiner, Horticulture Chair at Cornell, has agreed to provide a speaker on Plant Breeding on zoom for no fee.

Other outreach opportunities might be the Cooperstown Senior Center now at the Clark Sports Center called Connections. Other speakers might focus on topics such as taking care of garden tools, and speaking at the women-owned 'Pickin' Patch' (Schenevus) which holds workshops and caters to a younger audience.

Sandra Knapp from Worcester K-12 is eager to have us talk on lasagna gardening, composting, and other topics during agriculture literacy week; they have a grant.

Facebook reached out to 27,762 people and increased followers by 47.4%.

David went over the upcoming schedule—the Workplan Worksheet—which is distributed regularly.

The Plant Sale is scheduled for the weekend **before** Memorial Day, MAY 20. It was suggested that we pass out flyers for the Plant Sale at the Seed Swap on January 28, 9 a.m. to noon, which will take place at the Oneonta Farmers' Market. We need volunteers, so please let Ellen know what you can contribute. Darlene, Kim, and Carol will be there. Call to MGs to start early to collect seeds. Keep in mind that donation requests to retailers should be done in July.

Lauren made a poster for distribution at the Winter Sowing workshop. Lauren sent Ellen Alex the poster to go to Francine. Everyone will go home with milkweed seeds. Questions were raised about the availability of bales of Pro-Mix for seed starting at ACE. Annutto's is more expensive. David renewed the CCE account at Griffins.

KUDOS to Madelyn Sanchez Taylor for all that she does!!

Finance – Mary-Ellen Crawford

Presented the latest expenditures report outlining what has been spent and what has yet to be spent. Bottom line = all is well.

Going forward, the budget process requires that all committee chairs must turn in their planned budgets by the end of this month (December). Once they are collected, the finance committee meets and prepares a budget. They then pass it by David and Liz and present it to the group in the January MG meeting for approval. Questions? Ask Mary Ellen Crawford.

Ellen brought up that funds for “professional development” should be available for Master Gardeners (not staff).

Seed Starting/Plant Sale – Carol Phelps

Kim notes that the first plant sale meeting will be on March 1 by zoom and in person at 10 a.m. The first seed starting meeting is scheduled for January 31. The distribution site is at CCE Cooperstown. Time? Bring containers for Pro-Mix.

New shelving units and lighting will be at Emma Kirsch's and Katherine McGuire's homes.

Grow with CCE/Grounds: Pati Grady and Peter Coleman

Construction of new garden: Pati reported on construction progress to date. Crushed stone will be substituted for stone dust for paths in raised-bed area. Bert will begin work at home on constructing the garden house and finish building it on site in the spring. Permit is still pending. The project recently received a donation of \$20,000.

Peter then reported on progress so far on the current garden construction. There are details to be finished including a bench-like board seat surrounding each raised bed.

A computerized irrigation system of stand pipes to each bed for drip irrigation has two zones—one for the raised-beds and one for the rain garden and surrounding beds.

Three meetings are coming up, January 10 on signage, February 14 on plant choices, and a third on March 14 all at 10 a.m. and by zoom. (Dates to be confirmed) Peter also mapped out the designation of plants for the different beds (attach map). This year we will probably be using mostly plants, not seeds. The two side-gardens will be planted with plants from the holding bed established behind the office.

Inside the garden house will be wall space for signs covering a welcome message thanks to donors, CCE information, Master Garden information. Garden signs for individual beds and on the three other entrances to the garden.

Pati Grady said that Mary Leonard from Carefree Gardens suggested classes be held next year on how to grow vegetables.

The fate of the perennial gardens is still up in the air. The holding beds will be moved in the spring. It was suggested that we scatter native plants within the raised beds. There was debate about whether existing perennials should be mixed with new plants because of the risk of importing jumping worms.

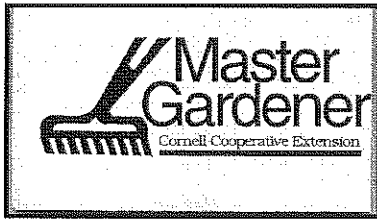
Final remarks: Say (or let Madelyn know) what committees you want to be on.

Volunteer appreciation luncheon for both SMGs and OMGs will be on Saturday, January 7, 2023. Location TBD soon; no cost to the MGVs.

The next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11, 10 a.m. in Cooperstown, hybrid in-person and by Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 12 p.m.

Submitted by Susanna Membrino



MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER
MONTHLY MEETING ATTENDANCE
12/14/2022

PLEASE SIGN IN – Excused:

Print Name	Sign
Pati Grady	Pati Grady
Peter Cokham	Peter Cokham
Carol Phelps	Carol H. Phelps
Kim L'Heureux	Kim L'Heureux
Susan Jones	Susan Jones



Master Gardener Volunteer Education & Outreach Meeting Report January 11, 2023

1. Budget - Increased budget by \$500 for PD & Outreach. We have an acceptance from UDE Homegrown National Park author/researcher Doug Tallamy. Plus two events at Cornell:
 - Thursday, May 4th will be the field day for the Vegetable Varieties Trial Garden project from 11- 3 PM (to allow for travel) at Cornell (locations TBD) and will include a speaker, Steve Reiners and his students, lunch, and optional tours. The VVTG Day is free to MG.
 - The Sustainable Landscapes conference will be on June 15th, from 9 – 4 at Cornell AgriTech in Geneva. This is a collaboration between NYSIPM and Sustainable Landscapes. There is a \$50 fee for this one but it will include the Ecological Gardening Guide and lunch. We can send a few people and would ask they do a workshop to share with us.
2. We are proposing a theme for the year – ***Gardening for the Greater Good***. This theme incorporates
 - Celebrating/Finding the Joy in Gardening.
 - Choosing Plants Intentionally that Support the Environment and Local Businesses;
 - Seeing Gardens as Part of the Ecosystem;
 - Sharing Your Passion, Your Time, and Your Harvest
3. Outreach in the month of December
 - **Winter Sowing at Job Corps** – Chris, Francine & David
 - **Cooperstown Senior Community Center** > Connections at Clark Gym 1/5/23
Mary Ellen Calta
4. Outreach potential – Worcester Central School – STEAM + Ag curriculum K - 7 – Sandra Knapp, curriculum coordinator would like a MG to come to school to speak about composting – and lasagna gardening– She would also like to know about CCE plans for Ag Literacy Week. David and Liz will look into Ag Literacy Week with Teresa.
5. Outreach and education are central to our mission. We want to encourage more OMGs to participate in workshops and GROW projects. It was suggested to do personal invitations as a way to encourage more involvement. Ellen will put buddy cards together to invite new OMGs to the Seed Swap. Ellen and Kim will do a seed starting workshop in person at CCE in February.
6. Helpline update – common questions – could the answers be potential We Grow? Mary Ellen will put together a list of topics.
7. FB report – 830 followers. Our response rate was down slightly during the holiday. Posts that had the greatest response in the past month:

Ag in the Classroom Grant, Pollinator Handbook (Kids' Garden), Seed Swap, Joan Reilly's Memorial. Posts related to children is trending.

8. Upcoming – Seed Swap – Ellen has lots of seeds. Darleen will come early to help. David will bring tables if necessary. OMGs will wear aprons and their pins.
9. David shared a calendar of events for the next several months. Steve Reiners has two doctoral students who will do a workshop for us on Plant Breeding on a date to be determined.
10. Mary Ellen Calt (I'll ask Kim also) will do We Grow on 1/11 on how MGs in Vermont developed projects based on the work of Doug Tallamy.

Kudos to Liz and David for MG get together. Delicious food, a chance to build community. It was much appreciated. Thank you!



Otsego Master Gardener Program
PROGRAM 2020 – 2021: IN-HOUSE WORKPLAN
 Education & Outreach Committee – Update: 12/7/20

Month/Date/Time/Place	Event/Activity/Topic	Facilitator/Presenter(s)/ Participants	Comments/Next Step(s)
January			
1/13/20: 10 to 11:30 a.m. 1/13/20: Noon to 1:00 p.m. Zoom/CCE Cooperstown	General OMG Meeting Lunch & Learn (L&L): Making Sense of Seed Catalogs – Ask the Experts	TBD Kim L’Heureux Kathy Koch Laurie VanNostrand? (Cornell Recommended Varieties for 2021. CCE Wayne)	Include disclaimer that CCE is not endorsing seed companies. Check w/Ashley Helmholdt for timing of availability.
1/30/20: 10 to 11:00 a.m. St. James Episcopal Church 305 Main St., Oneonta (Elm)	Annual Seed Swap	Ellen Alex et al.	Contact: Deacon Vickie Hunter, 607.432.1458 Approved \$100 for space
February			
2/10/21: 10 to 11:30 a.m. 2/10/21: Noon to 1:00 p.m. Zoom/CCE Cooperstown	General OMG Meeting L&L: Timing Your Garden Plantings - Phenology	TBD Mary Ellen Calta	
Dates TBD <i>Other Outreach?</i>	Seed Starting	Kim L’Heureux et al.	Seed starting dates w/MGs TBD
March			
3/10/21: 10 to 11:30 a.m. 3/10/21: Noon to 1:00 p.m. Zoom/CCE Cooperstown	General OMG Meeting L&L: Garden Design (?)	TBD Susanna Membrino (?)	(In discussion)
3/??/21: Time TBD; DAR, Oneonta, or Zoom (likely)	Short History of Gardening	Mary Ellen Calta	(In discussion)
3/21/21: 9 a.m. to noon Middlefield Orchards; 9-10, Zoom webinar; 10-noon, hands-on field workshop <i>Other Outreach?</i>	Tree & Small Fruit Pruning	Laura McDermott (ENYCHP)	Laura McDermott and Willy Bruneau are willing to do both online and hands-on; cost is \$10/person

<p>APRIL</p> <p>4/14/21: 10 – 11:30 a.m. 4/14/21: Noon to 1:00 p.m. Zoom/CCE Cooperstown</p> <p>4/?? – 4/??/21: Times TBD</p>	<p>General OMG Meeting L&L: Nature Heals (??)</p> <p>Spring Garden Day at Earth Fest</p> <p>Topics: Eat Your Yard: Edible Landscaping.</p> <p>English Gardens ? Broad Beans ?</p> <p>Topic(s) TBD:</p>	<p>TBD Presenters TBD</p> <p>In collaboration w/OCCA; Jeff O’Handley, Program Director (In discussion)</p> <p>Carol Phelps / Chris Burrington</p> <p>Fiona Dejardin ? Fiona Dejardin ?</p> <p>Cornell -Botanical Gardens / GBL / Hort Section (Dept)</p>	<p>Welcome MG Apprentices (In discussion)</p> <p>607.282.4087 <programdirector@occainfo.org></p> <p>“What and where to plant vegetables, flowers, fruits, and herbs to enhance your landscape and your table.” (In discussion) (In discussion)</p> <p>(Proposed: DC in contact with CBG.)</p>
<p>MAY</p> <p>5/12/21: 10 – 11:30 a.m. 5/12/21: Noon to 1:00 p.m. Zoom/CCE Cooperstown</p> <p>5/5/21: (Time TBD)</p> <p>5/29-30/21: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.</p>	<p>General OMG Meeting Lunch & Learn: Nature Heals - Container Gardening</p> <p>The Art of Progressive Blooming</p> <p>Annual Plant Sale</p>	<p>TBD Francine Stayter / Mark Boshnack</p> <p>Mila Fournier (CCE Tompkins), or TBD from CBG</p> <p>Pati Grady / Carol Phelps, Co-Chairs</p>	<p>Working w/community groups for adaption... ??</p> <p>DC to contact Schoharie Valley Garden Club / CBG; Cost is \$10/person See 10/30 and 12/4 meeting notes. Farmers’ Museum agreed to use parking lot as a back-up.</p>
<p>JUNE</p> <p>6/9/21: 10 – 11:30 a.m. 6/9/21: Noon to 1:00 p.m. Zoom/CCE Cooperstown</p> <p><i>Other Outreach?</i></p>	<p>General OMG Meeting L&L: Don’t Eat My Garden, Part I: Top Five Insect Pests to Manage</p>	<p>TBD Carmen Greenwood ??, SUNY Cobleskill</p>	<p>DC to contact Carmen for workshop</p>
<p>JULY</p> <p>7/14/21: 10 – 11:30 a.m. 7/14/21: Noon to 1:00 p.m. Zoom/CCE Cooperstown</p>	<p>General OMG Meeting L&L: Don’t Eat My Garden, Part II: Practical Solutions to Manage Nuisance Wildlife</p>	<p>TBD Joellen Lampman, Community IPM Extension Support Specialist, NYS-IPM</p>	<p>CCE Albany, 518.441.1303; jhz6@cornell.edu</p>

7/18 or 25/21: Time(s) TBD Zoom/CCE Cooperstown	AAS / VVGT Open House and... Second Season Seed Starting	MGVs TBD TBD	On-site discussion w/C-19 Safety Protocols observed. Outside class??
AUGUST 8/11/21: 10 – 11:30 a.m. (or) Noon to 1:00 p.m. Zoom/CCE Cooperstown 8/3 – 8/8/21: Times TBD Morris Fairgrounds 8/29/20: Times TBD Location(s) TBD	No General OMG Meeting L&L: Virtual Tour of Otsego MG Gardens. Topics: Edible Landscape Florida Weave Trellis for Tomatoes English Gardens & Varieties of Beans Raised Beds Otsego County Fair Display TBD Family Farm Day Outreach?	TBD Chris Burrington Francine Stayter Fiona Dejardin Pati Grady MGVs TBD TBD	A collection of ten-minute pre-recorded videos Utilizing same type of wood as purchased for raised beds. Committee needed w/min of three MGs. Optional outreach event
SEPTEMBER 9/8/21: 10 -11:30 a.m. 9/8/21: Noon to 1:00 p.m. Date(s)/Time TBD Date/Time	General OMG Meeting L&L: Seed Saving Hartwick Co. Living Fest Harvest Fest, Farmers’ Museum	TBD Kathy Koch et al. TBD TBD	Serves as preparation for the Annual Seed Swap, 1/29/22.
OCTOBER 10/13/21: 10 – 11:30 a.m. 10/31/21: Noon - 1:00 p.m. TBD	General OMG Meeting L&L: Forcing Bulbs Down in the Dirt: Composting and Improving Soil Health (??)	TBD Susan Jones Carol Phelps et al.	(In discussion) (In discussion)
NOVEMBER 11/10/21: 10 – 11:30 a.m. 11/10/21: Noon – 1:00 p.m.	General OMG Meeting L&L: Holiday Gifts for Gardeners (?)	TBD MGs	(In discussion)

<i>Other Outreach?</i>			
DECEMBER			
12/8/21: 10 -11:30 a.m.	General OMG Meeting	TBD	Annual MG Appreciation Day

Professional Development for Programming:

- 11/17/20, 10:00 a.m., Celebrating Diverse, Innovative, Nimble, and Agile Extension Work - MGVI Programs – Celeste Carmichael, Cornell
Recording: <https://staff.cce.cornell.edu/units/celebrating-diverse-innovative-nimble-and-agile-extension-work>
- 11/18/20: Noon – 1:00 p.m., November Sustainable Landscapes Lunch & Learn – Community Food Systems Best Practices – Carla Crim, CCE Delaware
Recording: https://vod.video.cornell.edu/media/Sustainable+Landscapes+Lunch+%26+LearnA++Community+Food+Systems+Best+Practices/1_xt5zqpqc

November 10th Horticulture Update

November 24th Horticulture Update

Topics for consideration:

- Pest and Plant Diseases in a Changing Climate: Tony Antes, Federated Garden Club of NY
- Bio-Intensive Gardening: Carla Crim, Ph.D., Horticulture Educator, CCE Delaware Co.
- New Takes on Container Gardens: Barbara Melera, Horticulturalist, Flora Historian
- Plant Propagation and Planting Strategies: Chris Cash, Professor Emeritus of Plant Science
- Grow a Cutting Garden at Home. Betsy Busche.
- Learning to Grow Vegetables (suggested Mary Leonard)

Topics suggested by the Schoharie Free Library:

- Keeping chickens safe and healthy through the winter
- Herbs for the windowsill and microgreens
- Cold frame gardening
- Forcing bulbs (Susan Jones)
- Planning and starting a garden
- Eating weeds (dandelions, winter cress, etc.)
- Weed & pest control in the garden
- Harvesting & preserving the garden

Topics from MGVI Training 2020-21:

FALL 2020

Botany Basics / Plant Propagation (Carla Crim)
Biointensive Gardening / Propagation (Carla Crim)

Composting	(Carla Crim, Carol Phelps)
Soil Health / Mulches	(Chris Cash)
Plant Pathology	(Chris Cash)
Greenhouse / Hydroponics	(Leslie Judd, Ph.D.; George Crosby, Ph.D.)
Weed ID & Control	(Erik Smith, Field Crops, CNYDLFC Team)
Garden Insect Pests and Management	(Carmen Greenwood, Ph.D., SUNY Cobleskill)
Native Pollinators	(Carmen Greenwood)
Biological Control / Insect Natural Enemies	(Carmen Greenwood)
Lawn Care w/o Pesticides	(David Chinnery, CCE Rensselaer)
Invasive Species	(Marilyn Wyman and Dan Snider)

SPRING 2021

Annuals & Perennials	(Betsy Busche)
IPM (Around the Home) / Nuisance Pests & Wildlife	(Joellen Lampman, CCE Albany)
Large & Small Fruits	(Laura McDermott, ENYCHP)
Edible Landscapes / Permaculture	(Carla Crim)
Woody Plants/Ornamentals	(Chris Cash)
Organic Gardening	(Crystal Stewart Courtens, ENYCHP)
Beekeeping	(Garet Livermore)
Home Landscapes (Design)	(Birgitta Brothy, Assoc. Professor, SUNY Delhi)

January 2023

Hello Master Gardener Volunteers:

Attached is the Master Gardener Proposed Budget for 2023. Please look this over carefully as we would like to discuss and then vote on this budget at Wednesday's meeting. You will find 2 parts: They are described below.

There is usually a third report showing a break down of the revenue and expenses for the year however, I have not received the transaction report for 2022 at this time, so that report is not available (hoping to have it for you by the February meeting).

2023 Budget Overview

This is the summary of the Proposed 2023 Budget. It is based on the Budget Request Forms submitted by the Committee Chairs.

Master Gardener Budget Request Forms

These are the forms that the committee chairs submitted. The top part of the form shows the 2022 budget requests and actual revenues and expenditures. The bottom part of the form shows the Committee's 2023 goals and projected revenues and expenditures. These are the forms that the Budget Overview is based on. If you want to know how a committee chair arrived at the amount that shows on the Budget Overview, check that committee's request form.

If you have questions, please contact me.

Mary-Ellen Crawford

2023 Budget Overview

Committee	Projected Revenue	Projected Expense
Education & Outreach - General + Subcommittees: GROW Initiative Helpline incl soil tests		\$2,150 \$1,050 \$100
Finance - General Caring Fund Coordinators Fund		\$350 0 \$700
Grounds (incl AAS)		\$1,668
Plant Sale	\$5,000.00	\$700
Seed Starting	Incl in plant sale	\$3,550
Summary	\$5,000.00	\$10,268